

REMARKS

The undersigned renews the request for an interview prior to a first office action in the above-identified application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to schedule such interview, at the convenience of the Examiner. The Examiner is thanked in advance for cooperating with this Request.

By the present amendments, Applicants are further amending the claims of the above-identified application in order to further clarify the definition of the present invention as set forth in various of the present claims.

Specifically, claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claim 24 substituted therefor. Claim 24 defines a functioning substrate with a group of columnar micro pillars, including a first matrix of thermoplastic organic polymer and the group of columnar micro pillars, of a thermoplastic organic polymer, elongating from the matrix; claim 24 further recites that at least one group of the micropillars are columnar micro pillars formed by a specifically recited technique. Dependencies of claims 2-8, 10 and 20-23 have been amended in light of canceling of claim 1 and substitution therefor of claim 24; and claim 3 has been amended to recite that the defined aspect ratio is a ratio of the height (H) to the equivalent diameter (D). Claim 16 has been amended, inter alia, since the "second matrix" has not previously been recited.

In addition to new claim 24, claims 25-27 are being added to the application. Claims 25 and 26, each dependent on claim 24, respectively defines the aspect ratio of height to equivalent diameter of each of the columnar micro pillars; and defines sizes of the equivalent diameter and height of each of the columnar micro pillars, and a relationship between sizes of such equivalent diameter and such height.

New independent claim 27 defines a method for manufacturing a functioning

substrate equipped with a group of columnar micro pillars, the group of columnar micro pillars being defined as, inter alia, being provided using a mold with multiple pits which each have an equivalent diameter of ten microns or less, and with the method including steps of applying pressure to this mold, composed of a material harder than the material of which a matrix (upon which the group of columnar micro pillars is arranged) is composed, so as to press part of the material of which the matrix is composed into the pits; separating the mold from the material of which the matrix is composed; and stretching at least part of the material, of which the matrix is composed, which has been pressed into the pits, thereby forming the group of columnar micro pillars. Moreover, original claim 15, defining a method for manufacturing a functioning substrate, has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In connection with the newly added claims, note, for example, pages 4, 5 and 7-12, of Applicants' specification.


Entry of the present amendments; and scheduling of an interview prior to a first Office Action in the above-identified application, are respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper be charged to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus,

LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (case No. 520.43241X00), and any excess fees
be credited to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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